

IN THE CLAIMS:

Set forth below in ascending order, with status identifiers, is a complete listing of all claims currently under examination. Changes to any amended claims are indicated by strikethrough and underlining. This listing also reflects any cancellation and/or addition of claims.

1. (Currently amended) A processor-readable medium comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor to:

receive guest information from a first guest, said guest information including at least one item selected from the group of a name, a market segment, and a point of origin;

receive a room request from said first guest, said room request from said first guest including at least one item selected from the group of an arrival date, a length of stay, and a room feature; and

determine, based at least partially on the received guest information, a predetermined category of guests within which the first guest can be classified, the predetermined category of guests including guests having similar guest profile information;

determine, based at least partially on the received room request, a predetermined category of room from which the room request can be satisfied;

determine a room rate for said first guest based on the predetermined category of guests a comparison between said guest information and guest profile information associated with similar guests and further based on a comparison between said room request from said first guest and a forecast of demand for a similar request room from the predetermined category of room, said forecast of demand being based on historical data.

2. (Currently amended) The processor-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor to:

receive guest information from a second guest;

receive a room request from said second guest, said room request from said second guest being similar to said room request from said first guest;

determine, based at least partially on the received guest information from the second guest, a predetermined category of guests within which the second guest can be classified, the predetermined category of guests including guests having similar guest profile information;

determine, based at least partially on the received room request from the second guest, a predetermined category of room from which the room request from the second guest can be satisfied; and

determine a room rate for said second guest based on the predetermined category of guests within which the second guest can be classified ~~a comparison between said guest information and guest profile information associated with similar guests~~ and further based on a comparison between said room request from said second guest and said forecast of demand for a similar request room from the predetermined category of room from which the room request from the second guest can be satisfied, said room rate for said first guest being different from said room rate for said second guest.

3. (Currently amended) The processor-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor to:

receive guest information from a second guest, said guest information from said second guest being similar to said guest information from said first guest;

receive a room request from said second guest;

determine, based at least partially on the received guest information from the second guest, a predetermined category of guests within which the second guest can be classified, the predetermined category of guests including guests having similar guest profile information;

determine, based at least partially on the received room request from the second guest, a predetermined category of room from which the room request from the second guest can be satisfied; and

determine a room rate for said second guest based on the predetermined category of guests within which the second guest can be classified ~~a comparison between said guest information and guest profile information associated with similar guests~~ and further based on a comparison between said room request from said second guest and said forecast of demand for a similar request room from the predetermined category of room from which the room request

from the second guest can be satisfied, said room rate for said first guest being different from said room rate for said second guest.

4. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said room request from said first guest includes an arrival date, a length of stay, and at least one room attribute.

5. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 4, further comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor, before determining said room rate for said first guest, to:

organize an inventory of hotel rooms as a plurality of attribute combinations, wherein a first attribute combination represents a second attribute combination and a third attribute combination, wherein said second attribute combination is different from said third attribute combination;

determine a number of rooms in said inventory represented by each of said attribute combinations;

identify each attribute combination from said plurality of attribute combinations that corresponds to said at least one room attribute in said room request from said first guest; and

determine whether said room request from said first guest can be met from said inventory based on a number of rooms available for each identified attribute combination.

6. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 5, further comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor to:

adjust said number of rooms available for each identified attribute combination if said room request from said first guest can be met from said inventory.

7. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 5, further comprising code representing instructions to cause a processor to:

deny said room request from said first guest if said room request from said first guest cannot be met from said inventory.

8. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 5, wherein said number of rooms available includes an allowed number of overbooked rooms.

9. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 5, wherein said number of rooms available is based on said forecast of demand.

10. (Previously presented) The processor-readable medium of claim 5, wherein said room rate for said first guest is further based on said number of rooms available.

11. – 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

an interface configured to receive guest information and a room request from a first guest; and

a processor in communication with the interface, the processor being configured to
determine, based partially on received guest information, a predetermined category of guests within which the first guest can be classified, the predetermined category of guests including guests having similar guest profile information,

determine, based at least partially on the room request, a predetermined category of room from which the room request can be satisfied, and

determine a room rate for the first guest based on the predetermined category of guests
~~a comparison between the guest information and guest profile information associated with similar guests~~
and further based on ~~a comparison between the room request from the first guest and a forecast of demand for a similar request room from the predetermined category of room,~~
the forecast of demand being based on historical data.

23. (Currently amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the interface is configured to receive guest information including at least one item selected from the group of a name, a market segment, and a point of origin.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising:

a centralized database in communication with the interface and the processor, the centralized database being configured to store and communicate to the processor the guest profile information associated with the ~~similar~~ guests having profile information similar to the first guest, the centralized database being further configured to store and communicate to the processor the historical data.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the centralized database is configured to store information associated with a first lodging property and information associated with a second lodging property, the information associated with the first lodging property and the information associated with the second lodging property each including an inventory of rooms.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising:

a first external database associated with the first lodging property, the first external database being configured to store inventory information associated with rooms of the first lodging property including availability information and pricing information of rooms of the first lodging property; and

a second external database associated with the second lodging property, the second external database being configured to store inventory information associated with rooms of the second lodging property including availability information and pricing information regarding each of said inventory of rooms of rooms of the second lodging property.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 26, further comprising:

a reservations management system configured to communicate with the interface and the processor, the reservations management system being configured to communicate with a first reservation system and a second reservation system different from the first reservation system, the reservations management system being configured to make a reservation for a room of at least one property selected from the group of the first lodging property and the second lodging

property based on the guest information, the reservations management system being further configured to update information in the centralized database associated with the reservation, and the reservations management system being further configured to update inventory information in at least one database selected from the group of the first external database and the second external database based on the reservation.

28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the reservations management system is configured to query the centralized database for inventory information associated with rooms of the first lodging property and for inventory information associated with rooms of the second lodging property.

29. (Currently amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising:

a reservations management system configured to communicate with the interface and the processor, the reservations management system being configured to communicate with a first reservation system and a second reservation system different from the first reservation system, the reservations management system being configured to make a reservation for a room of at least one property selected from the group of a first lodging property and a second lodging property based on the guest information.

30. (Currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the first reservation system includes at least one item selected from the group of a global distribution system and a property management system that controls an inventory of at least one item selected from the group of a hotel and a hotel chain.

31. (Currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the interface includes at least one item selected from the group of a reservation agent terminal, a direct access client, and a web server coupled to a web browser, the interface being in communication with the first reservation system.

32. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29, wherein the reservations management system is configured to cause the processor to determine the room rate for the first guest.

33. (Currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein said reservations management is configured to managing yield of at least one item selected from the group of the first lodging property and the second lodging property.

34. (Currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the interface is a first interface from a plurality of interfaces, the first interface being configured to communicate with the first reservation system, a second interface from the plurality of interfaces being configured to communicate with the second ~~interface~~ reservation system.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the first interface is configured to translate information between a format associated with the reservation management system and a format associated with the first reservation system; and

wherein the second interface is configured to translate information between the format associated with the reservation management system and a format associated with said second reservation system.

36. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

a centralized database configured to store historical data and information associated with an inventory of rooms for a first lodging property and information associated with an inventory of rooms for a second lodging property;

a first external database in communication with the centralized database, the first external database being configured to store inventory information associated with the first lodging property, the inventory information including availability information and pricing information associated with the first lodging property;

a second external database in communication with the centralized database, the second external database being configured to store inventory information associated with the second

lodging property, the inventory information including availability information and pricing information associated with the second lodging property; and

a reservations management system in communication with the centralized database and at least one database selected from the group of the first external database and the second external database, the reservations management system being configured to

determine, based at least partially on guest information for a guest, a predetermined category of guests within which the guest can be classified, the predetermined category of guests including guests having similar guest profile information,

determine, based at least partially on a room request made by the guest, a predetermined category of room from which the room request can be satisfied, and

determine a room rate for the a guest based on the predetermined category of guests ~~a comparison between guest information associated with the guest and guest profile information associated with similar guests~~ and further based on ~~a comparison of a room request made by the guest and~~ a forecast of demand for a similar request room from the predetermined category of room, the forecast of demand being based on historical data received from the centralized database.